

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: November 15, 2019

Youth Advisory Council

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting on Monday, November 18th from 6:45 to 8:00 pm. They will have a guest speaker from South Lane Wheels to discuss transportation and volunteer opportunities for youth in Cottage Grove.

Watershed Council Events

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council has a number of activities that will be happening in the next few weeks.

Tomorrow, Saturday November 16th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am they will be hosting the Fall Bird Walk at the Row River Nature Park. Everyone, regardless of their birding ability, is invited to join the walk that will be led by Grace Fowler-Gore. Participants should meet by the kiosk near the weigh scales. Be sure to dress for the weather, bring water, snacks, binoculars and a bird identification book.

The last Science Pub for 2019 will be held on Tuesday, November 26th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Axe & Fiddle at 657 East Main Street. The presentation by Chris Homanics, will be “Fruit and Nut Explorations of the Pacific Northwest” and will illustrate how the revival of diverse local agroforestry production can provide a resilient source of foods, medicines and materials. Chris is the founder of the Agrarian Sharing Network, board member of the Home Orchard Society, and runs an edible-focused nursery called Head, Hands, Heart.

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Winter Watershed Soirée will be held on Friday, December 6th from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at the Cottage Grove Armory. For more information or to purchase tickets contact the Watershed office at (541)767-9717.

Scenic Bikeway

The City Manager attended a meeting of the Oregon Scenic Bikeway Committee in Salem on Friday. The committee met to review opportunities for committee members to help continue the work of the Scenic Bikeway program while the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department recruits a new staff coordinator for the program.

Street Lights

With the change of seasons, it is getting darker earlier. The increased hours of darkness provide all of us the opportunity to experience the luminous glow of the over 509 street lights throughout the community. Because of that we also start to notice the street lights that don't light up or the indecisive ones that just can't seem to either stay on or off. It is very difficult to monitor all 509 streetlights every day, so it is important that citizens play an active role in helping to spot the malfunctioning street lights so they can get the help they need quickly.

Most of the street lights in Cottage Grove are owned and maintained by Pacific Power. The remaining street lights are owned by EPUD with a very small group are owned by the City.

Nearly every street light has an identification plate or sticker on the pole. The plate identifies the electric utility that services that light and provides an identification number for that pole. The electric utilities need the identification number to find the street light. If the light is serviced by Pacific Power, citizens can directly report the errant light by visiting the Pacific Power website at: pacificpower.net and go to "Outages and Safety". If the light is serviced by EPUD, citizens can directly report the malfunctioning light by visiting the EPUD website at epud.org and select the "Street Light Repair" under the "My Home" tab. Any light can also be reported to the Public Works Department at (541)942-3349. The Engineering Division will then submit the report to the appropriate electrical utility.

Birds of a Feather Fall Together

On Saturday, November 23rd come downtown and participate in the Small Business Saturday Pre-sale sponsored by Main Street Cottage Grove. Part of the festivities that day will be reliving the 1930's Turkey Drop. Instead of live turkeys, like in the 30's, the 2019 rendition will be stuffed animal turkeys that will be tossed off the Axe & Fiddle building onto South 7th Street in front of All-America City Square. If you catch a turkey, you will be entered in a drawing and may have the chance of winning a turkey dinner. Visit (and then "Like") Main Street Cottage Grove on Facebook for more information.

J. Polk Currin Swinging Bridge

The grand re-opening Ribbon Cutting for the newly completed J. Polk Currin Swinging Bridge is on Saturday, November 30th at 10:00 am. The bridge is currently open and in use and has had positive reviews by those that have crossed the bridge.

You Better Watch Out

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus are coming to town. The Christmas in Cottage Grove celebration will be held on Saturday, December 7th. Mark your calendars for Breakfast with Santa at the Fire Hall, the Tree Lighting downtown and pictures at City Hall.

Evidence Coordinator Attends OAPEO Conference

On Wednesday, November 13, 2019, Evidence Coordinator, Shawna Bailey attended the Oregon Association of Property and Evidence Officers (OAPEO) Annual Conference. This is a subsection of the Oregon Peace Officers Association.

Shawna attended several break-out sessions with the following topics: Unclaimed Property and Finders Laws, Releasing Firearms, Disposition of Property and Evidence, Crime Scene Investigation, Record Retention and Public Records Requests, and a presentation on the Woodburn Bank Bombing (2008).

At lunch, Shawna moderated a networking hour for our region so they could talk about things that are and are not working at the respective agencies and how others may help.

Pokémon at the Library

Want to learn how to play the Pokémon trading card game? The Cottage Grove Library is teaming with "Delight" to teach kids ages 7 to 12 how to play this collectible card game. Join us on Saturday, November 16th from 4:00 to 5:30 pm to learn this popular game. Starter decks will be available for use. Spots are limited, so call (541) 942-3828 or come in to sign up.

November is Native American History Month

The Cottage Grove Public Library is celebrating Native American History Month with displays of books, photographs, and original art. Please stop by during November to check out some new titles and an amazing display of art by Oregon Native American Artist Rick Bartow.

Quote of the Week

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

~Maya Angelou~